

Figure 1. Catch per set of opah in the California/Oregon drift gillnet fishery (CADGN) versus El Nino Southern Oscillation (ENSO) events. Opah catch rates from 1990 to 2009 averaged 2.31 opah/set with peak catch rates observed during 1997 (4.44), 2007 (3.41), and 2009 (4.40). All three years also exhibited signs of a positive ENSO event, as shown in red.

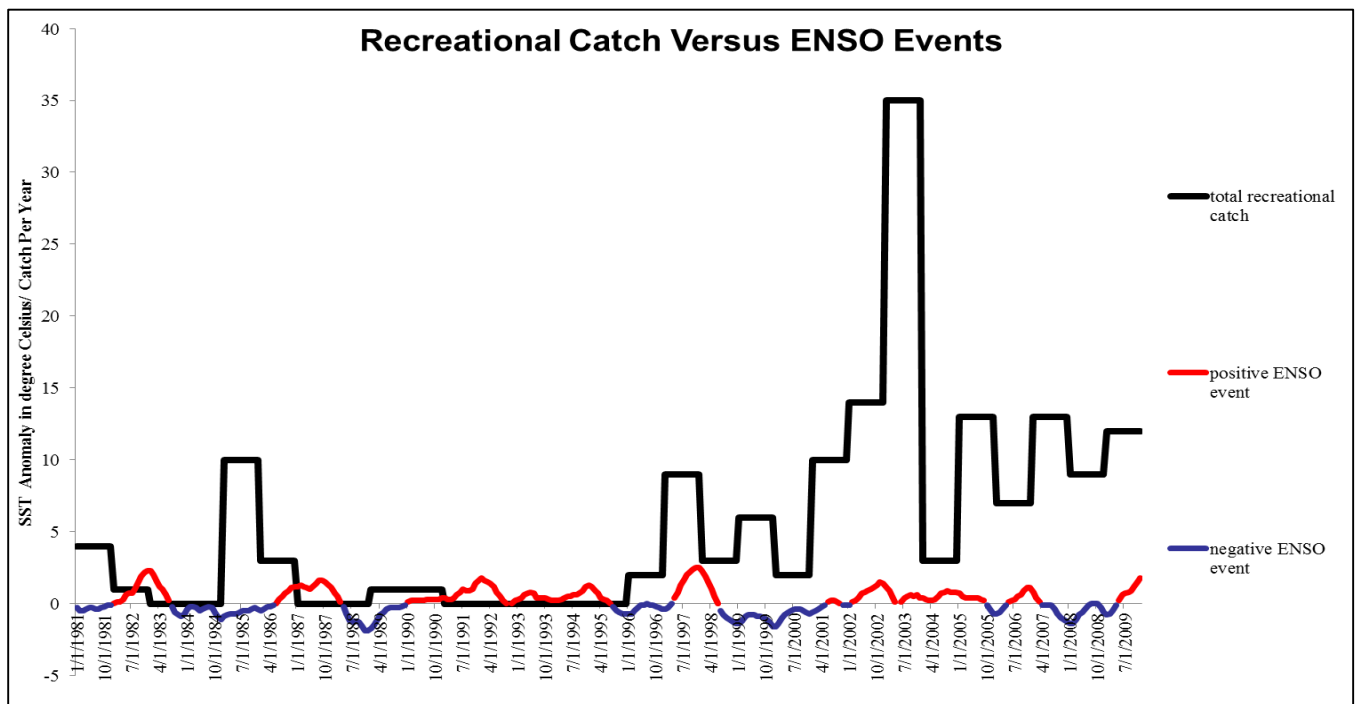


Figure 2. Catch per set of opah in recreational fisheries versus El Nino Southern Oscillation (ENSO) events, 1981-2009. Fishing logbooks reported an average of 5.44 opah/year, with peak catch occurring in 2003 with 35 opah. There appears to be an upward trend of opah catch per year since 1995 according to the recreational fishing logbooks.